

# The Farmington Enterprise

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## EDITORIALS:

### It's Our Opinion

#### The Prompt Decision . . .

of the City Council to purchase a site in the business area for use as a public parking lot is not only sound but farsighted action.

A new and progressive attitude is taking place in the city which should go a long way toward insuring its future as an active and independent community. It is hard to visualize the many changes now under way. From all indications the city population will double in the next four or five years. With the increase in population will come an increase in business establishments. This can mean only one thing—greater concentration.

This concentration can mean confusion or it can mean progress, depending upon what happens in the next few years. We can build or we can just grow. We can establish a shopping center that will attract and service the increased number of residents or we can encourage them to go elsewhere for their needs.

One of the first and foremost steps in the building of a progressive service center is public parking. The problem is the same in communities large and small throughout the state. It is essential to success. But the problem does not end here. This is only the beginning.

The merchants themselves must take up the lead if genuine progress is to be made. They must cooperate in making the shopping center more attractive, both collectively and individually. They must, wherever possible, provide public parking of their own. . . they must prepare to meet the increased services required by an increased number of people. It isn't a job for one individual or one segment of the community. . . it is a job for all.

The establishment of a planning commission and the decision to increase the public parking facilities are two vitally important steps. But two steps will not take us to our ultimate goal. Many steps by many people will be required. How fast we travel up the path to success is up to us!

#### In Just 11 Days . . .

the qualified electors of the township and city will have an opportunity to go to the polls. How many will take advantage of it?

That's a question many conscientious Americans are asking themselves today. Will it be 15%, 50% or what? It is a searching question and a serious one. In an effort to insure majority action on election days, many countries impose a fine on voters who fail to cast their ballots. This is being done to protect the dwindling number of free nations. We don't believe in this kind of pressure. . . we place our strength and faith in the responsibility of the individual to do his duty as an American.

However, prior to the last national election there was growing cause for alarm over the indifference of the American people. In November voters turned out in record numbers to restore, for the time being at least, faith in our principles. Now we are faced with a less colorful, but equally important, election. What will the answer be?

On April 6 voters of the township and city will elect officials who, in the next few years, will guide the destinies of the Farmington community. In addition, the voters will name state and county officials. There is no side-tracking of responsibility. . . not in a democracy. George or Mary can't mark that ballot for you. . . it's up to you!

#### Not Too Often . . .

is an individual State Representative singled-out for a commendation on a job well done.

But we want to be different right here. . . we want to commend Representative Howard Estes of Birmingham on his successful efforts in getting the Farmington Township no hunting bill through the House. He was assisted by a group of township residents who appeared before the House Conservation Committee several weeks ago. Through the work of these residents and the leadership of Representative Estes, the House Bill was approved by a vote of 56-26.

The proposal is now before the Senate for consideration. We hope that it will be approved. We hope so because it is our opinion that the people should be given an opportunity to express themselves on such legislation, and thanks to Representative Estes, they may have that chance.

## GO TO CHURCH THIS WEEK

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 2500 Grand River Avenue  
 Early Service, 8:30 a.m.  
 Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.  
 Late Service, 11 a.m.

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
 Middlebelt at Eight Mile Road  
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m., nursery to senior departments.  
 Divine services at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.  
 Lutheran Hour broadcast at 8:30 p.m. Sunday over CKLW and at 3:30 p.m. on WXYZ.

**FIRST METHODIST CHURCH**  
 Grand River and Warner Avenues  
 Sunday School, 10:00 a.m.  
 Morning worship, 11:15 a.m.  
 Youth Fellowship, 8:30 p.m.

**LIVONIA METHODIST CHURCH**  
 W. 7 Mile, E. of Farmington Rd.  
 8:30 a.m., Church School.  
 10:45 a.m., Morning Worship.  
 10:45 a.m., Nursery, kindergarten and primary Sunday School.  
 W. S. C. S. on second and fourth Thursday of each month at 1 p.m.

**FARMINGTON ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
 Grand River at Middlebelt  
 Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.  
 Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m.  
 Evening Service, 7:30 p.m.  
 Friday Prayer Service, 7:45 p.m.  
 Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Young People's meeting.

**CLARENSVILLE METHODIST CHURCH**  
 Evening Service, 7:30 p.m.  
 10:00 a.m., large, enthusiastic Sunday School.  
 11:15 a.m., the Morning Worship.  
 8:30 a.m., the Intermediate Youth Fellowship, the Wesley Adult Fellowship, the Evening Service.  
 7:45 p.m. every Wednesday evening, the Prayer Service.

**FARMINGTON FIRST BAPTIST**  
 10:00 a.m. Nursery, Junior Church and Morning Worship.  
 11:15 a.m. Sunday School with all-aged lessons.

5:00 Young People's Choir.  
 6:30 Junior, Hi-Y, and Senior Youth Groups.  
 6:45 Adult Study Class.  
 7:00 Pre-service prayer meeting.  
 7:30 Happy Evening Hour.  
 7:30 Wednesday, Hour of Power.  
 8:00 Friday, Senior Choir.

**WEST POINT PARK CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 Bible School, 9:45 a.m.  
 Sunday Morning Worship, 11:00 a.m.  
 Sunday Evening Service, 7:30 p.m.  
 Wednesday Evening Prayer Meeting, 8 p.m.

**SALEM EVANGELICAL CHURCH**  
 A nursery department is maintained during the Morning worship.  
 Morning Worship, 10:00 a.m.  
 Church School, 11:15 a.m.  
 Youth Fellowship, Sunday evenings.

**FOREST HILLS UNITED MISSIONARY CHURCH**  
 Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.  
 Morning Worship, 11 a.m.  
 Evening Service, 7:30 p.m.  
 Youth Fellowship, 8:45 p.m.  
 Wednesday Prayer Service, at 8 p.m.

**OUR LADY OF BORMOS**  
 Sunday Masses: 7:00, 8:30, 9:45, 11:15 and 12:30.  
 Holy Day Masses: 6:30, 7:00, 8:00 and 9:00.  
 Daily Masses: 6:30 and 8:00.  
**SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST**  
 Grand River at Oxford  
 Sabbath School 9:30 a.m. Saturday.  
 Church 11:00 a.m. Saturday.  
 8 p.m. Wednesday, prayer meeting.

"Faith for Today" telecast 11:30 a.m. Sunday, Channel 7.  
 "Voice of Prophecy" WXYZ Sunday 9:30 a.m., CKLW Sunday 10:30 a.m.

**SOUTHFIELD COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
 21122 Indian Road  
 10:00 a.m. Bible School.  
 11:15 a.m. Worship.  
 Nursery provided.  
 7:30 p.m. Evening Praise.  
 Wednesday, 7:45 p.m., Prayer Fellowship.  
 Five Youth Clubs weekly.  
 Free transportation phone SO. 5372.

**CHURCH OF GOD**  
 20841 Shilwassee at Middlebelt  
 10 a.m. Sunday School.  
 11 a.m. Morning Worship.  
 8 p.m. Evangelistic Service.  
 8 p.m. Wednesday, Hour of Prayer.  
 8 p.m. Saturday, Young People's Service.

**FREE WILL BAPTIST**  
 Grand River at Middlebelt  
 10:00 a.m. Sunday School.  
 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship.  
 7:30 p.m. Evening service.  
 7:30 p.m. Thursday, prayer service.

**NOVI BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 10:30 Morning Worship Service.  
 Special music by the choir, illustrated children's message.  
 11:30, Sunday School: Bible study in classes; classes for all ages.  
 During the Sunday School hour the Junior Choir will practice.  
 7:30, Evening Worship service.

## The Unknown Quantity



### Oakland Citizens League Studies Michigan's Current Financial Crisis

Michigan's crisis is a financial one. The state has a \$65,000,000 accumulated budget deficit that has dried up the state treasury. This happened because Democratic Governor Williams and the Republican dominated state legislature cannot agree on how to make income balance outgo. It has happened also because the people have asked for state services and improvements and earmarked state revenue to pay for them in part. . . but the state's costs have risen and legislators cannot touch many revenue sources because they have been reserved for these earmarked purposes. So the state's debt rises. And neither the governor, the legislators, nor the people seem ready to help remedy the crisis.

Governor Williams has asked the legislature for a \$345,210,000 state government budget for the fiscal year starting July 1. The governor's 1953-54 budget represents a recommended increase of approximately \$14,000,000 over legislative appropriations totaling \$231,000,000 for the current year. Williams' proposed expenditures were \$9,000,000 less than he requested one year ago. Based on revenue estimates of \$304,000,000 for the current fiscal year, the governor said the operating deficit will be between \$20,000,000 and \$30,000,000 which will boost Michigan's accumulated budget deficit to a staggering \$39,000,000 by June 30.

The governor suggests that the legislature adopt a corporations profits tax to pump more money into the state treasury. Republican legislators have opposed the governor's tax plan vigorously since 1949. They feel that such a tax would ultimately become a consumer's tax, with the corporations passing the tax hike on to the consumer in the form of higher prices.

Sen. George N. Higgins, Republican, and Senate tax authority claims Williams wrongly vetoed a used car tax bill last year that would have provided \$17,000,000 and lessened the state's deficit. In this January session's opening hours, Higgins presented a \$35,000,000 bondanza for the failing state treasury. The Senate passed his bill which moves the due date of the corporation franchise tax from August 31 to May 15, thus picking up two corporation taxes in one state fiscal year. This is at best a temporary solution. Others would be to reform state administrative procedures and cut services. The former can effect some savings, the latter is considered political dynamite.

Any attempt by the legislature to "recapture" revenue, which is now returned to local communities or earmarked for special uses voted by the people, are bound to be met by organized howls from the people. But one major reason why the state today has a deficit of \$65,000,000 is because the people have straight-jacketed themselves. Here are the facts: All gas and weight tax money collected by the state must be spent for highways. And nine and a half million of the intangible tax collections are put aside for local governments. Also, all inheritance, telephone and telegraph, railroad and insurance company premium taxes and about 61% of the sales tax are given to schools.

(Continued on Page Eight)

**TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
 Rev. J. B. Guinan, Farm. 1049  
 (Services in Universalist Church)  
 9:30 a.m. Morning Prayer and sermon. Holy Communion on each third Sunday.

**CHURCH SCHOOL:** Pre-school to third grade during Sunday service. Fourth grade and up on Monday afternoon at 4:00 at 32915 Valleyview.

**ORCHARD METHODIST CHURCH**  
 5200 Mile Road at Greening  
 10:00 a.m. Church School.  
 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship.  
 Sermon theme: "Facing Forward - Palm Sunday"

Baptism of children: Special music by choir.  
 6:00 p.m. Junior and Intermediate Youth Fellowship.  
 Choir rehearsal at the church Wednesday night at 8:00.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY:** The Sacrament of Lord's Supper, 8:00 p.m.

**MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 Services at the Middlebelt School Sunday School 10:00 a.m.  
 Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.  
 Youth meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
 Evening service, 7:30 p.m.  
 Mid-week prayer service at the home of the Pastor at 21996 Tulane Wednesday at 8:00 p.m.

**GAYLORD BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 19188 Gaylord Road  
 Sunday School, 10 a.m.  
 Morning Worship, 11:15 a.m.  
 B. Y. F., 6 p.m.  
 Evening Service, 7:30 p.m.



By GENE ALLEMAN

Lack of state funds won't cause state schools to close — not yet at least.

The legislature, last week, finally agreed to move forward to May 15 the due date for corporation franchise taxes. This will permit the early collection of \$35,000,000 which can be passed on to the schools. Since many large corporations previously indicated they would not object to paying the shot, now instead of August 31, the move is expected to bring in \$15,000,000 at once. Penalty provisions for late payment were substantially softened so that corporations would not be unnecessarily pinched by the date change.

In the third month of sessions and with little accomplished to date, members have an eye on adjournment and how they can plan their strategies to take advantage of remaining time. Bills have been introduced in both houses to set May 23 for the final session. Under the present system, all bills must be submitted 60 days earlier to allow time for printing and study. Exceptions are revenue and appropriation proposals or new bills that have general consent.

Main reason little has been done under new tax rates, observers say, is the approach of spring elections. Both Republicans and Democrats, while anxious to clean up the state's financial troubles, are even more concerned with political complications.

Neither party wants to give the other any political advantage by taking action which, though sound from a legislative standpoint, might antagonize segments of the voting population and give opponents an opportunity to cash in with votes.

A good example of such thinking is the now nearly forgotten Princeton tax report, disclosed on February 16 after six months of hard work by nationally known tax experts. The recommendations called for no new taxes but a redistribution of present monies and constitutional reduction of the present consuming of funds. Many legislators agree that the program is sound, they will also tell you it hasn't a chance, except possibly as a long-range goal.

For one thing, the present distribution provides many rural areas with big slices of state funds. For example, differences exist as great as 100% in state aid payment to counties of similar wealth; one city receives 90% of its total receipts, while three get less than 10%.

Republican rural legislators would be in the position of favoring a plan that would result in less state aid for their home areas. The most idealistic politician would think many times before he put himself in this position.

Democrats, on the other hand, cannot afford to be put in a spot where people think they prefer (Continued on Page Five)

## Looking Back Through The Enterprise Files

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO (March 22, 1928)

For Better Business  
 Farmington's "Better Business Day", designed to foster better business relations between merchants of the community and residents of the trading territory, is to be held on Saturday, March 31. On that day Farmington merchants will offer special values in all lines of merchandise, and in addition will provide entertainment including free motion picture shows.

No Race  
 Farmington turned its attention from roads to races on Wednesday, when the greatest race in the history of this section was scheduled — but "did not choose to run". It may yet. What started as a discussion of the relative acceleration abilities of the Ford and Buick became the talk of the town within a few hours. The Buick roadster owned by Harley Warner and the Ford roadster owned by Harry Mack were both ready to run but the backers of the race were at an Exchange Club theatre party. Efforts are being made to have the race run off at 2:00 p.m. Saturday on the Base Line Road.

TEN YEARS AGO (March 25, 1943)

At More Music  
 Mrs. Margaret Mitchell of Oakland Avenue, Mrs. Elizabeth Miller of Tuck Road and Mrs. Lettie McIntyre of Farmington Road will leave Friday morning to attend the National Convention of the Blue Star Mothers, to be held at the Durant Hotel in Flint. Michigan is the hostess state. The mother will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Mrs. Mitchell is president of the Farmington group. Girls Elected

Two Farmington girls, both students at Albion College, have recently been elected to offices in their respective sororities. Cynthia Phillips has just been elected secretary of the pledges of the Alpha Chi Omega sorority at Albion, where she is a freshman. Mary Himmelsbach has been named recording secretary of the Delta Gamma sorority at Albion. Mary is a junior at the college.

FIVE YEARS AGO (March 23, 1948)

A large part of Farmington Township and surrounding territory was nearly isolated this week following heavy rains and warmer weather which left dirt feeder roads impassable. According to older residents, the condition of roads in the Farmington area is worse than in many years, with practically all the smaller dirt roads impassable. According to Postmaster Norman Lee, every effort is being made to get the mail through, however, some residents are still without mail service due to the roads.

Growers Meet  
 Marketing problems was the subject of discussion at a meeting of approximately 25 fruit growers from this area last week at the Farmington High School. Karl Bailey, County Agricultural Agent, addressed the group on the problems of marketing fruit products.

Approve Building  
 Voters of the Clarensville School District Tuesday approved by a sizeable majority a millage increase and bond issue for the purpose of constructing an auditorium-gymnasium building on the Middlebelt School site. The vote was as follows: (1) Millage Increase Question: Yes, 540; No, 217. (2) Bond Issue Question: Yes, 498; No, 269.

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